

SMART CARD WITH LOCK SENSING SWITCH

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A smart card connector (30) which includes a base (36) that can mount on a circuit board and a cover (76) that can hold a card (C) and that has a rear end pivotally connected to the base. The cover has a cover frame (77) and has a locking member (140) movable on the cover frame, so when the cover is closed on the base the locking member can be moved to lock the cover down against the base. A switch means mounted on the base and lying in the path of the locking member, detects movement of the locking member between its unlocked and locked positions, to operate circuitry that prevents reading a card until the cover is fully pivoted down and the locking member has moved to its locked position. One type of switch means includes a pair of switch blades (200, 202) lying at opposite sides of the base and engaging side portions (154, 156) of the locking member as the locking member becomes fully locked. Another type of switch means includes conductive traces on the circuit board that engage and disengage from the side portions of the locking member as the locking member moves between its locked and unlocked positions.